

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :
Kenichi IWAMOTO et al. :
Serial No. NEW : **Attn: APPLICATION BRANCH**
Filed November 4, 2003 : Attorney Docket No. 2003_1590

PISTON ROD POSITION DETECTOR,
AUTOTENSIONER AND BELT TENSION
ADJUSTER
**(Rule 1.53(b) Divisional of Serial No. 09/679,809,
Filed October 5, 2000)**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of ☒ the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and/or ☐ the additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the form PTO-1449 and each U.S. patent application listed below is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for each reference previously cited by or submitted to the Patent Office in prior parent application Serial No. 09/679,809.

1a. ☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, **or**

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

1b. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

(1) ☐ the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, **or**

(2) ☐ the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

1c. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and

the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

2. It is hereby certified

a. ☐ that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or

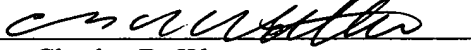
b. ☐ that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

3. ☐ Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.

4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:
- a. ☐ a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,
 - b. ☐ a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
 - c. ☒ the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page 2,
 - d. ☒ the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
 - e. ☐ the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:
5. ☐ A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenichi IWAMOTO et al.

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November 4, 2003

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

FORM PTO 1449 (modified)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICELIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Date Submitted to PTO: November 4, 2003

ATTY DOCKET NO.
2003_1590SERIAL NO.
NEWAPPLICANT
Kenichi IWAMOTO et al.FILING DATE
November 4, 2003

GROUP

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	4,478,595	10/1984	Hayakawa et al.			
	AB	4,759,256	7/1988	Kovit et al.			
	AC	5,383,813	1/1995	Odai			
	AD	5,609,399	3/1997	Feigel et al.			
	AE	5,693,267	12/1997	Beshore et al.			
	AF	5,186,689	2/1993	Yamamoto et al.			
	AG	5,702,317	12/1997	Kawashima et al.			
	AH	6,165,091	12/2000	Dinca et al.			
	AI	5,620,385	4/1997	Cascionale et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO	
	AJ	2 050 550	1/1981	GB				
	AK	0 237 493	9/1987	EP				
	AL	3-13647	3/1991	JP				
	AM	7-117130	12/1995	JP				
	AN	62-31757	2/1987	JP				

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AO	
	AP	
	AQ	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

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*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	BA	5,033,400	7/1991	Fischer			
	BB	5,257,014	10/1993	Zimmermann			
	BC	5,523,684	6/1996	Zimmermann			
	BD	6,188,151	2/2001	Livshits et al.			
	BE	6,321,781	11/2001	Kurth			
	BF						
	BG						
	BH						
	BI						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO	
	BJ	3-213752	9/1991	JP			Abstract	
	BK	2-118252	5/1990	JP			Abstract	
	BL	62-72949	4/1987	JP			Abstract	
	BM	62-93556	4/1987	JP			Abstract	
	BN							

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	BO	
	BP	
	BQ	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED